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NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE AND FEE(S) DUE

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03/17/2010

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SALT LAKE CITY, UT 84111

EXAMINER

JOHNSON, CARLTON

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2436

DATE MAILED: 03/17/2010

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/734,817	12/12/2003	Bernard D. Aboha	13768.432.1	3500

TITLE OF INVENTION: SECURE ASSOCIATION AND MANAGEMENT FRAME VERIFICATION

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	06/17/2010

THE APPLICATION IDENTIFIED ABOVE HAS BEEN EXAMINED AND IS ALLOWED FOR ISSUANCE AS A PATENT. **PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS CLOSED.** THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWANCE IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS. THIS APPLICATION IS SUBJECT TO WITHDRAWAL FROM ISSUE AT THE INITIATIVE OF THE OFFICE OR UPON PETITION BY THE APPLICANT. SEE 37 CFR 1.313 AND MPEP 1308.

THE ISSUE FEE AND PUBLICATION FEE (IF REQUIRED) MUST BE PAID WITHIN **THREE MONTHS** FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS NOTICE OR THIS APPLICATION SHALL BE REGARDED AS ABANDONED. **THIS STATUTORY PERIOD CANNOT BE EXTENDED.** SEE 35 U.S.C. 151. THE ISSUE FEE DUE INDICATED ABOVE DOES NOT REFLECT A CREDIT FOR ANY PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE IN THIS APPLICATION. IF AN ISSUE FEE HAS PREVIOUSLY BEEN PAID IN THIS APPLICATION (AS SHOWN ABOVE), THE RETURN OF PART B OF THIS FORM WILL BE CONSIDERED A REQUEST TO REAPPLY THE PREVIOUSLY PAID ISSUE FEE TOWARD THE ISSUE FEE NOW DUE.

HOW TO REPLY TO THIS NOTICE:

I. Review the SMALL ENTITY status shown above.

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as YES, verify your current SMALL ENTITY status:

A. If the status is the same, pay the TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above.

B. If the status above is to be removed, check box 5b on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and twice the amount of the ISSUE FEE shown above, or

If the SMALL ENTITY is shown as NO:

A. Pay TOTAL FEE(S) DUE shown above, or

B. If applicant claimed SMALL ENTITY status before, or is now claiming SMALL ENTITY status, check box 5a on Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal and pay the PUBLICATION FEE (if required) and 1/2 the ISSUE FEE shown above.

II. PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL, or its equivalent, must be completed and returned to the United States Patent and Trademark Office (USPTO) with your ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). If you are charging the fee(s) to your deposit account, section "4b" of Part B - Fee(s) Transmittal should be completed and an extra copy of the form should be submitted. If an equivalent of Part B is filed, a request to reapply a previously paid issue fee must be clearly made, and delays in processing may occur due to the difficulty in recognizing the paper as an equivalent of Part B.

III. All communications regarding this application must give the application number. Please direct all communications prior to issuance to Mail Stop ISSUE FEE unless advised to the contrary.

IMPORTANT REMINDER: Utility patents issuing on applications filed on or after Dec. 12, 1980 may require payment of maintenance fees. It is patentee's responsibility to ensure timely payment of maintenance fees when due.

PART B - FEE(S) TRANSMITTAL

**Complete and send this form, together with applicable fee(s), to: Mail Mail Stop ISSUE FEE
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INSTRUCTIONS: This form should be used for transmitting the ISSUE FEE and PUBLICATION FEE (if required). Blocks 1 through 5 should be completed where appropriate. All further correspondence including the Patent, advance orders and notification of maintenance fees will be mailed to the current correspondence address as indicated unless corrected below or directed otherwise in Block 1, by (a) specifying a new correspondence address; and/or (b) indicating a separate "FEE ADDRESS" for maintenance fee notifications.

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I hereby certify that this Fee(s) Transmittal is being deposited with the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage for first class mail in an envelope addressed to the Mail Stop ISSUE FEE address above, or being facsimile transmitted to the USPTO (571) 273-2885, on the date indicated below.

(Depositor's name)
(Signature)
(Date)

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10734,817 12/12/2003

Bernard D. Aboba

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TITLE OF INVENTION: SECURE ASSOCIATION AND MANAGEMENT FRAME VERIFICATION

APPLN. TYPE	SMALL ENTITY	ISSUE FEE DUE	PUBLICATION FEE DUE	PREV. PAID ISSUE FEE	TOTAL FEE(S) DUE	DATE DUE
nonprovisional	NO	\$1510	\$300	\$0	\$1810	06/17/2010

EXAMINER	ART UNIT	CLASS-SUBCLASS
JOHNSON, CARLTON	2436	713-201000

1. Change of correspondence address or indication of "Fee Address" (37 CFR 1.363).

- ☐ Change of correspondence address (or Change of Correspondence Address form PTO/SB/122) attached.
☐ "Fee Address" indication (or "Fee Address" Indication form PTO/SB/47; Rev 03-02 or more recent) attached. Use of a **Customer Number is required.**

2. For printing on the patent front page, list

- (1) the names of up to 3 registered patent attorneys or agents OR, alternatively, 1 _____
 (2) the name of a single firm (having as a member a registered attorney or agent) and the names of up to 2 registered patent attorneys or agents. If no name is listed, no name will be printed. 2 _____
 3 _____

3. ASSIGNEE NAME AND RESIDENCE DATA TO BE PRINTED ON THE PATENT (print or type)

PLEASE NOTE: Unless an assignee is identified below, no assignee data will appear on the patent. If an assignee is identified below, the document has been filed for recordation as set forth in 37 CFR 3.11. Completion of this form is NOT a substitute for filing an assignment.

(A) NAME OF ASSIGNEE

(B) RESIDENCE: (CITY and STATE OR COUNTRY)

Please check the appropriate assignee category or categories (will not be printed on the patent): ☐ Individual ☐ Corporation or other private group entity ☐ Government

4a. The following fee(s) are submitted:

- ☐ Issue Fee
☐ Publication Fee (No small entity discount permitted)
☐ Advance Order - # of Copies _____

4b. Payment of Fee(s): (Please first reapply any previously paid issue fee shown above)

- ☐ A check is enclosed.
☐ Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.
☐ The Director is hereby authorized to charge the required fee(s), any deficiency, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account Number _____ (enclose an extra copy of this form).

5. Change in Entity Status (from status indicated above)

- ☐ a. Applicant claims SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27. ☐ b. Applicant is no longer claiming SMALL ENTITY status. See 37 CFR 1.27(g)(2).

NOTE: The Issue Fee and Publication Fee (if required) will not be accepted from anyone other than the applicant; a registered attorney or agent; or the assignee or other party in interest as shown by the records of the United States Patent and Trademark Office.

Authorized Signature _____ Date _____
 Typed or printed name _____ Registration No. _____

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.311. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450.

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Determination of Patent Term Adjustment under 35 U.S.C. 154 (b) (application filed on or after May 29, 2000)

The Patent Term Adjustment to date is 708 day(s). If the issue fee is paid on the date that is three months after the mailing date of this notice and the patent issues on the Tuesday before the date that is 28 weeks (six and a half months) after the mailing date of this notice, the Patent Term Adjustment will be 708 day(s).

If a Continued Prosecution Application (CPA) was filed in the above-identified application, the filing date that determines Patent Term Adjustment is the filing date of the most recent CPA.

Applicant will be able to obtain more detailed information by accessing the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) WEB site (<http://pair.uspto.gov>).

Any questions regarding the Patent Term Extension or Adjustment determination should be directed to the Office of Patent Legal Administration at (571)-272-7702. Questions relating to issue and publication fee payments should be directed to the Customer Service Center of the Office of Patent Publication at 1-(888)-786-0101 or (571)-272-4200.

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/734,817

Examiner

CARLTON V. JOHNSON

Applicant(s)

ABOBA ET AL.

Art Unit

2436

- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 11-30-2009.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-28 and 44.
3. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.

THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

4. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
5. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
- (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
- 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.
- Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
6. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO/SB/08), Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413), Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

/Carlton V. Johnson/
Examiner, Art Unit 2436

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Colby C. Nuttall Registration No. 58,146 on March 11, 2010.

The application has been amended as follows:

Claims **1, 10, 19, and 24** have been amended as follow:

1. (Currently Amended) In a station that is capable of communicating with at least one access point in a communications network, a method for creating a secure association between the station and at least one access point, the method comprising:

at a station that is a client device seeking access to other client devices and a network by associating with and authenticating itself to one or more access points that bridge communications between the client device and a network communications server in the communications network, obtaining discovery information from the one or more access points in the communications network, the discovery information reflecting capabilities of the one or more respective access points to facilitate communication with the station;

selecting one of the access points to become associated with; and

authenticating the selected access point, wherein authenticating the selected access point includes verifying the discovery information previously obtained from the one or more access points in the communications network by:

 sending ~~the~~ all of the discovery information obtained from the selected access point while previously obtaining discovery information back to the selected access point as part of a discovery verification request to be verified, wherein ~~the~~ all of the discovery information previously obtained from the access point and sent back to the selected access point includes the capabilities of the selected access point and is sent back with a security object; and

 receiving an acknowledgement receipt from the selected access point verifying that the capabilities included in the discovery information sent back with the security object in the discovery verification request matches the capabilities included in the discovery information provided by the selected access point while obtaining discovery information from the one or more access points.

10. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in a station that is capable of communicating with at least one access point in a communications network, the computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable storage media storing computer-executable instructions for implementing a method for creating

a secure association between the station and at least one access point, the method comprising:

at a station that is a client device seeking access to other client devices and a network by associating with and authenticating itself to one or more access points that bridge communications between the client device and a network communications server in the communications network, obtaining discovery information from the one or more access points in the communications network, the discovery information reflecting capabilities of the one or more respective access points to facilitate communication with the station;

selecting one of the access points to become associated with; and
authenticating the selected access point, wherein authenticating the selected access point includes verifying the discovery information previously obtained from the one or more access points in the communications network by:

sending ~~the~~ all of the discovery information obtained from the selected access point while previously obtaining discovery information back to the selected access point as part of a discovery verification request to be verified, wherein ~~the~~ all of the discovery information previously obtained from the access point and sent back to the selected access point includes the capabilities of the access point and is sent back with a security object; and

receiving an acknowledgement receipt from the selected access point verifying that the capabilities of the access point as included in the

discovery information sent back with the security object in the discovery verification request matches the capabilities of the access point as included in the discovery information provided by the selected access point during the obtaining of discovery information from the one or more access points.

19. (Currently Amended) In an access point that is capable of communicating with at least one station in a communications network, a method for creating a secure association between the station and at least one access point, the method comprising:

at an access point that bridges communication between one or more stations that are client devices seeking access to other client devices and a network by associating themselves with and authenticating themselves to one or more access points, providing discovery information to one of the one or more stations, the discovery information reflecting capabilities of the access point to facilitate communication with the one of the one or more stations;

providing a certificate with the discovery information that is used by the station to authenticate discovery information of the access point;

receiving the all of the discovery information provided by the access point to the one of the one or more stations back from the one of the one or more stations as part of a discovery verification request from the one of the one or more stations, wherein the discovery verification request includes at least part of the all of the discovery information provided by the access point to the one of the

one or more stations while the one of the one or more stations was previously obtaining discovery information from multiple access points, including at least the capabilities of the access point as previously provided by the access point to the one or more stations; and

sending an acknowledgement receipt to the station, thereby verifying to the one of the one or more stations that the received capabilities of the access point included in the discovery information sent back as part of the discovery verification request matches the capabilities of the access point included in the discovery information originally provided while the one of the one or more stations was obtaining discovery information from multiple access points.

24. (Currently Amended) A computer program product for use in an access point that is capable of communicating with at least one station in a communications network, the computer program product comprising one or more computer-readable storage media storing computer-executable instructions for implementing a method for creating a secure association between the station and at least one access point, the method comprising:

at an access point that bridges communication between one or more stations that are client devices seeking access to other client devices and a network by associating themselves with and authenticating themselves to one or more access points, providing discovery information to the one of the one or more stations, the discovery information

reflecting available transfer rate capabilities of the access point to facilitate communication with the one of the one or more stations;

providing a certificate with the discovery information that is used by the station to authenticate discovery information of the access point;

receiving ~~the provided~~ all of the discovery information provided by the access point to the one of the one or more stations, back from the one of the one or more stations as part of a discovery verification request from the one of the one or more stations, wherein the discovery verification request includes at least ~~part of the discovery information~~ the available transfer rate capabilities of the access point as provided by the access point to the one of the one or more stations while the one of the one or more stations was previously obtaining discovery information from multiple access points; and

sending an acknowledgement receipt to the station, thereby verifying to the one of the one or more stations that the received discovery information sent back as part of the discovery verification request matches the discovery information originally provided while the one of the one or more stations was obtaining discovery information from multiple access points.

Allowable Subject Matter

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance.

Claims **1, 10, 19, 24** are allowed based on the following:

The prior art of record, considered individually or in combination, fails to fairly show or suggest: *sending the same discovery information obtained from the selected access point while previously obtaining discovery information back to the selected access point as part of a discovery verification request to be verified, wherein the same discovery information previously obtained from the access point and sent back to the selected access point includes the capabilities of the selected access point and is sent back with a security object; and receiving an acknowledgement receipt from the selected access point verifying that the capabilities included in the discovery information sent back with the security object in the discovery verification request matches the capabilities included in the discovery information provided by the selected access point while obtaining discovery information from the one or more access points*, in addition to the other limitations in a manner as recited in claims **1, 10, 19**.

Claims **2 - 9, 44** are allowed due to allowed base claim **1**.

Claims **11 - 18** are allowed due to allowed base claim **10**.

Claims **20 - 23** are allowed due to allowed base claim **19**.

Claims **25 - 28** are allowed due to allowed base claim **24**.

So as indicated by the above statements, Applicant's arguments have been considered persuasive, in light of the set of claims with limitations as well as the enabling portions of the specification. The dependent claims further limit the independent claims and are considered allowable on the same basis as the

independent claims as well as for the further limitations set forth.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Conclusion

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Carlton V. Johnson whose telephone number is 571-270-1032. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday thru Friday , 8:00 - 5:00PM EST.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Nasser Moazzami can be reached on 571-272-4195. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Art Unit: 2436

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

/Nasser Moazzami/
Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2436

Carlton V. Johnson
Examiner
Art Unit 2436

CVJ
March 1, 2010